

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/943,566

Examiner

Salman Ahmed

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/30/2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/14/01 and 06/02/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-38 are allowed.

Reason for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant application claims a method, switch and system for transmitting data comprising: receiving a first transaction targeted to a first domain; receiving a second transaction targeted to a second domain; determining a first arbitration domain corresponding to first transaction; determining a second arbitration domain corresponding to second transaction; transmitting first and second transaction concurrently in response to detecting first arbitration domain is not equal to second arbitration domain; and serializing transmission of first and second transaction in response to detecting first arbitration domain equals second arbitration domain.

The cited prior art Smith et al. (US PAT 6901056) teaches a system and apparatus for time multiplexing of multi-domain transactions is provided. A computer system may include multiple domains of clients where the domains share common physical links. The bandwidth on a physical link may be divided between the domains that use that link such that a domain may only convey and receive transactions specific to that domain during the time period allocated to it on that physical link. A counter may be used to partition the bandwidth of a physical link between the domains that use that physical link.

The cited prior art Nguyn (US PAT 5761445) teaches A two domain network linking a first and second data processing system enables efficient data transfers between modules in the first system and modules in the second system through linkage by bus exchange modules

having message queues and snoop-write address queues in each domain. Each system also allocates bus access using a selectively adjusting bus access priority arbitration logic unit. The Snoop-Write address queues in each bus exchange module can temporarily hold a sequence of Write OP addresses snooped from one domain for invalidation in another domain without requiring the bus exchange module to dominate its access priority over other requesting modules.

The cited prior art Johnson et al. (US PAT 5509125) teaches A multi-domain, distributed arbitration system, and a method performed by a plurality of arbiters to control arbitration of requests for a multiprocessor system bus. The requests are generated by a plurality of nodes coupled to the multiprocessor system bus. The requests are presented on a plurality of arbitration request lines. Each node comprises one of the arbiters such that each arbiter is associated with a corresponding node. A plurality of domains are created by the arbiters based on a bit-wise combination of the requests on the arbitration lines. A priority is assigned to each domain relative to the other domains. Each arbiter monitors the requests on the arbitration request lines and generates an i.sub.-- win result that indicates whether or not the associated node is an overall arbitration winner if a request from that node is pending. In addition, the arbiters generate a who won result that indicates which node was the overall arbitration winner according to the assigned priorities.

The prior arts alone or in combination fail to jointly suggest or teach the claimed combination of features as taught by the instant application. The prior arts do not specifically teach a method, switch and system for transmitting data comprising: receiving a first transaction targeted to a first domain; receiving a second transaction targeted to a second domain;

determining a first arbitration domain corresponding to first transaction; determining a second arbitration domain corresponding to second transaction; transmitting first and second transaction concurrently in response to detecting first arbitration domain is not equal to second arbitration domain; and serializing transmission of first and second transaction in response to detecting first arbitration domain equals second arbitration domain. Therefore claims 1-38 are to be deemed allowable over prior art.

Conclusion

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Salman Ahmed whose telephone number is (571)272-8307. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on (571)272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Salman Ahmed
Examiner
Art Unit 2666



DANG TON
PRIMARY EXAMINER